



Staff Report

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO CITIZENS GREEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Honorable Mayor and Council Members:

Summary

The City Council has directed the establishment of a Citizens Green Advisory Committee to gather and explore ideas on enhancing Belmont's environmental sustainability. The Committee would provide valuable input and support City efforts towards the pursuit of:

- Promotion of energy efficiency and conservation
- Construction of Green buildings
- Waste reduction and recycling
- Climate-friendly purchasing
- Use of alternative energy and low-carbon fuels
- Encouragement of sustainable land use and smart growth
- Promotion of individual and community action
- Enhanced tree planting

The Council adopted a Resolution (9941 – see Attachment B) at their October 23, 2007 meeting creating the Committee as well as membership criteria. The approved committee roster composition (11 members) is as follows:

- 1 – City Council Member (Vice Mayor William Dickenson is designee, Councilmember Christine Wozniak is alternate)
- 1 – Planning Commission (Vice-Chair Rick Frautschi is designee, Commissioner Robert Mayer is alternate)
- 1 – Parks & Recreation Commission (Commissioner Art Andrews is designee, Commissioners Dianthe Harris & Jonathon Gervais are alternates)
- 1 – Finance Commission (Commissioner Marcie Dompier is designee, Commissioner Natalie Melamed is alternate)
- 2 – Neighborhood Associations (Pierre St. Hilaire & Krista Kuehnhackl, designees)
- 1 – Chamber of Commerce (Vickie Padelford – designee)
- 1 – Sustainable San Mateo County (Gladwyn D'Souza – designee)
- 3 – Citizen's at Large (To be appointed via Council)

Discussion

Interest in serving on this committee (as an at-large Citizen) has been overwhelming. The City Council has interviewed 22 persons, many of which were strong candidates for the committee. As such, staff recommends that the number of at-large Citizens be increased from three to eight. The City Council can also consider adding a second Council seat, in which case Christine Wozniak, the alternate, would serve in that capacity. Staff has no concerns with seventeen task force members rather than eleven. Following appointment of the Task Force, an orientation and kick-off meeting will be scheduled within 30 days.

Balloting

Due to the large number of applicants for the at-large seats on this committee, there is a potential for multiple balloting. Council has requested that staff provide some options for balloting in order to assist with the process. The following represents some options to consider. This list is not intended to address all options, and Council may wish to consider other options, or some hybrid of one or more of these. There are obvious pros and cons to each of these options, and staff has no recommended course of action, as this is a decision for Council to make.

1. Use standard ballots (all applicants on one ballot), Council members each cast up to the maximum number of votes as there are seats (e.g., up to 8 votes, if 8 is the final number of seats). If there are no clear winners, eliminate those receiving no votes with each round. (This is the standard process used for choosing commissioners).
2. Ranked/weighted vote system: Each Council member casts 8 votes for their first choice, 7 votes for their second choice, and so on.
3. If Council concurs with the staff recommendation to increase the number to 8 seats, each Council member selects one person, then uses standard balloting for the remaining 3 seats.
4. Increase the number of at-large seats to 10, and each Council member selects 2 people.

It should be noted that all ballots, regardless of how many rounds, are public documents. No public hearing is required in relation to tonight's item, but public comments may be offered.

General Plan/Vision Statements

Establishing and appointing members to the Citizens Green Advisory Committee furthers the City's Vision Statement as follows:

Distinctive Community Character

- *We get involved in town matters because we care about living here.*

Natural Beauty

- *Our actions today preserve and enhance Belmont's beauty to make it even lovelier for our grandchildren.*

Fiscal Impact

There is no fiscal impact resulting from these appointments.

Public Contact

1. Display ads were placed in various newspapers, a press release was issued, and the Twin Pines Reader Board was utilized to announce the application period. In addition, notification was made to all of the neighborhood association presidents.
2. Posting of City Council agenda.

Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Council appoint the remaining members of the Citizens Green Advisory Committee as presented in this memo.

Alternatives

1. Appoint other representatives.
2. Provide other direction to staff.
3. Take no action.

Attachments

- A. Draft Resolution Amending Resolution 9941 RE: Citizen Green Advisory Committee Composition
- B. Resolution on Appointments
- C. October 23, 2007 City Council Staff Report Regarding Establishing Citizen Green Advisory Committee

Respectfully submitted,

Carlos de Melo
Community Development Director

Jack R. Crist
City Manager

Staff Contact:

Carlos de Melo, Community Development Director
(650) 595-7440
cdemelo@belmont.gov

PLEASE NOTE: Attachment III is not included as part of this document; it can be viewed on the City Website www.belmont.gov via the City Council Staff Reports Link for the October 23, 2007 Meeting.

ATTACHMENT A

RESOLUTION NO. _____

**RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BELMONT
AMENDING RESOLUTION 9941 REGARDING THE ESTABLISHMENT AND
COMPOSITION OF THE CITIZENS GREEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

WHEREAS, the City Council has determined that public participation is necessary in helping the City achieve its goals and objectives of becoming more environmentally sustainable;

WHEREAS, establishing the Citizens Green Advisory Committee is consistent with the City's Vision Statement and Economic Development Program; and,

WHEREAS, the Citizens' Green Advisory Committee will terminate one (1) year from adoption of this resolution, at which time Council will review the Committee and consider extending the term for an additional period of time; and,

WHEREAS, the Citizens' Green Advisory Committee would encourage the community to think globally and act locally; and,

WHEREAS, the City experienced strong interest from the public in serving on this committee, and the Council believes it appropriate to expand the number of City Council members, and at-large citizens that would serve on the committee.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Belmont does hereby amend Resolution 9941 regarding the Citizens Green Advisory Committee and the Committee composition as follows (____ members total):

- City Council (2)
- Planning Commission (1)
- Parks Commission (1)
- Finance Commission (1)
- Neighborhood Associations (2)
- Chamber of Commerce (1)
- Sustainable San Mateo County (1)
- Citizens at Large (____)

* * * * *

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was duly and regularly passed and adopted by the City Council of the City of Belmont at a regular meeting thereof held on March 11, 2008, by the following vote:

AYES, COUNCILMEMBERS: _____

NOES, COUNCILMEMBERS: _____

ABSTAIN, COUNCILMEMBERS: _____

ABSENT, COUNCILMEMBERS: _____

CLERK of the City of Belmont

APPROVED:

MAYOR of the City of Belmont

ATTACHMENT B

RESOLUTION NO. _____

**RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BELMONT
MAKING APPOINTMENTS TO THE CITIZENS GREEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE
FOR A ONE-YEAR TERM TO EXPIRE ON THE FIRST DAY OF MARCH, 2009**

RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Belmont that the following citizens are hereby appointed to the Citizens Green Advisory Committee for a term to expire on March 1, 2009.

* * * * *

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was duly and regularly passed and adopted by the City Council of the City of Belmont at a regular meeting thereof held on March 11, 2008, by the following vote:

AYES, COUNCILMEMBERS: _____

NOES, COUNCILMEMBERS: _____

ABSTAIN, COUNCILMEMBERS: _____

ABSENT, COUNCILMEMBERS: _____

CLERK of the City of Belmont

APPROVED:

MAYOR of the City of Belmont